

**‘Modern’ Personal Perfins** - This study is *‘Work in Progress’*, the story so far....

In general terms we can define a Perfin as:

*“a postage stamp (or some other stamp valid for postage) which, in order to deter theft, has been perforated with the initials (and/or geometric pattern) of a company, public body, local authority etc., prior to its use as postage on a postal item or as a receipt”.*

Now a ‘Personal’ Perfin is the product of a perforating machine owned by an individual and intended primarily for their personal use, so in a sense, ‘Personal’ Perfins would normally be excluded from the Perfins Catalogue in that they fall at the first hurdle - they’re surely not intended to deter theft! However, they are undeniably part of the Perfin scene and of interest to Perfin collectors, and as such deserve an accurate record being made of them.

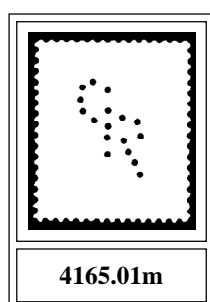
The following **twenty** Personal Perfins have been presented in roughly chronological order. As always, if you can add anything new to the study, particularly any dies you think might have been missed or possibly not even known about, *I’d be pleased to hear from you!*

Roy Gault - **1<sup>st</sup> January 2019**.

\* \* \* \* \*

The earliest ‘Personal’ Perfin listed in the *‘Gault Catalogue of G. B. Perfins’* is that used by **Gordon Richardson** who lived in Bexley Heath, Kent. Although the hand-made perforating machine was made sometime during World War II, it isn’t known used on postage stamps until the 1960’s, some fifteen or more years later.

The pattern consists of a monogram of Gordon Richardson’s initials, “GR”, although both the original use and current whereabouts of the perforating machine are unknown. Gordon Richardson was an active member of the Bexley Philatelic Society (founded in 1964), as well as being a member of the ‘Security Endorsement & Perfin Society of G.B.’ from 1961-1972.



In use: 1960-1969.  
 Dates: 14 Dec 1967.  
 Issues: U(MC) 4d (ordinary)  
 U(Ph) 4d (two 9.5mm bands)  
 V 4d (sepia)  
 Note: Die made during WWII.  
 Ident: Private Perfin used by  
 Gordon Richardson,  
 Bexley Heath, Kent.  
 {Member of SEPS 1961-1972}.  
 Pmks: Bexley Heath, Kent.



Ordinary

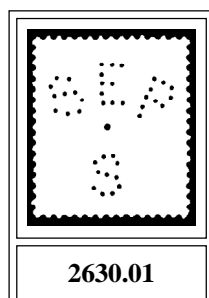


Phosphor



Note - A list of the stamp issue codes used is included at the end of this study.

Chronologically the next pattern to appear was “SEP./S” (S2630.01), used by the *Security Endorsement & Perfin Society of Great Britain* from 31<sup>st</sup> October 1964 until the name of the Society changed in November 1983.



In use: 1964-1983.  
 Dates: 31 Oct 1964\* - 19 July 1983.  
 Issues:  
 U(MC) ½d-10d, 1/- to 1/6d  
 V ½d, 1d, 2d (I), 3d, 4d (both)  
 W ½, 1, 1½, 2, 2½, 2½a, 3, 3a, 4  
 W 4½, 5, 5a, 6½, 12½, 16  
 X 2½d (SG651)  
 X 3d (SG646/655/659/665/681)  
 X 3d (SG687/713/756)  
 X 6d (SG616)  
 X 2½p (SG913)  
 X 3p, 9p (SG909/912)  
 X 3p (SG916)  
 X 3½p, 5½p (SG954/5)  
 X 4½p (SG958/962)  
 X 5½p, 8p (SG963/4)  
 X 7p (SG1044/6)  
 X 9p (SG893/903)  
 X 11p, 13p (SG1016/7)  
 X 12½p (SG1231)  
 X 16p, 20½p (SG1215/6)  
 X 16p (SG1227)



#### Regionals:

Y (Guernsey) 2½d, 3d  
 Y (Jersey) 2½d, 3d  
 Y (Scotland) 3d  
 Z (Northern Ireland) 3p, 3½p, 6½p, 8½p  
 Also used on postage stamps of Eire, and U.S.A.

Note: Hand operated machine made by Baddeley Bros, London, in 1964 at a cost of £9 15/-. Fitted with a single headed die.

Ident: Security Endorsement & Perfin Society of Great Britain.  
 First day of use was 31<sup>st</sup> October 1964\* when Bulletin N<sup>o</sup>. 61 was dispatched.

Pmks: Bromley, Ramsgate, Kent, Leeds, London, Newbury, Reading, Berk(shire), and Rhyl, Flintsh(ire).



First day of use - postmarked  
**Reading, 31<sup>st</sup> October 1964.**

Note made by Michael Rucklidge in his ‘*A Brief History of the Perfin Society*’ (May 1998).

*The purist deprecates the use of Perfins by individuals of the Society since the security aspect must be negligible. However, the majority of members agree with the use of a perforator by the Society and the “SEPS” model was purchased in 1964 from Baddeley Brothers in London for £9 15s 0d, and used to perforate stamps used to mail Bulletins. Members could also have their postage stamps perforated for their own personal use. The first day of use was on 31<sup>st</sup> October 1964.*

*At the London meeting in November 1983 the Society became known as “The Perfin Society” and the “SEPS” perforator became obsolete.*



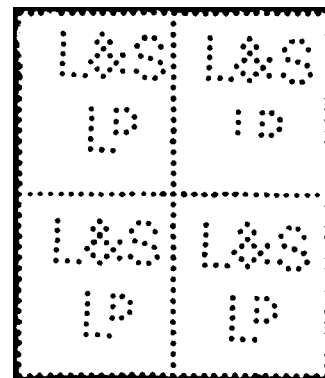
**3d Welsh Regional postmarked  
 Rhyl, 17<sup>th</sup> January 1965.**

Probably used by Miss Mary E Thornton,  
 Perfin Society member 1958-1990.

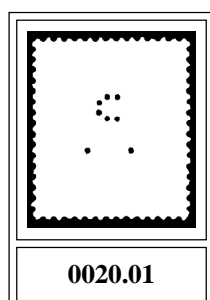
The third of the trio from the 1960's is "C/.." (C0020.01). This **2x2** multiheaded die started out life as "L&S/L<sup>d</sup>" (L5090.03M), used 1905-1940 by **Lepard & Smith Ltd**, Wholesale Stationers, Great Earl St, and Castle St, London WC. The earliest known date is 14<sup>th</sup> June 1907.

The machine fell out of use at the start of World War II, but was later revived between April 1962 and July 1964 to perforate stamps for use by the '**Security Endorsement & Perfin Society of G.B.**'. The 'full strike' illustrated alongside, showing missing pins to the "L" in the top-right pattern, was made during this period.

The machine was then donated to the '**Security Endorsement & Perfin Society of G.B.**' (which became the 'Perfin Society' in November 1983) and from March 1965 has been used in a modified form (achieved by pin removal) to produce "C/.." (C0020.01M), for use as a 'Personal' Perfin by **Chris Carr**.



Chris Carr is a founder member of the 'G.B. Perfin Study Group', appearing as N<sup>o</sup>.2 on the list of founding members, hence the two stops under the "C" in the Perfin. Chris helped to produce the Newsletter (the forerunner of the Bulletin) in the early days, was the Society Auctioneer 1964-1974, and President of the Perfin Society 1998-2010.



In use: 1965-2015.  
 Dates: 16 Dec 1972 - 8 Feb 2012.  
 Issues: U(MC) 4d V ½d, 2d (II), 3d, 6d  
 W ½, 1, 2a, 2½, 6a, 10a, 11, 11½a  
 W 12½, 13a, 15a, 17b, 18b, 19, 20b  
 W 22b, 24b, 28a, 50a, 1<sup>st</sup> (flame)  
 W 2<sup>nd</sup>  
 W(ell) 1, 2a, 4b, 5b, 6a, 19a, 20a  
 W(ell) 20c, 25a, 43, 1st, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1<sup>st</sup> SA  
 W(ell) 1<sup>st</sup> G, £1 (SG1611)  
 X 3p (SG916)  
 X 6½p (SG1018), 10p (SG1095)  
 X 15p, 20p (SG1467/9)  
 X 18p (SG1634/9)  
 X 19p (SG1790/1873/1896/1901)  
 X 19p (SG2111)  
 X 20p (SG1945/2069)  
 X 25p (SG1816/1916)  
 X 1<sup>st</sup> M (SG2124), 1<sup>st</sup> (SG2171)  
 X 2<sup>nd</sup> (SG1950/2138/2238)  
 Z(Wales) 24b  
 Z(Northern Ireland) 25a

**Postal Stationery:**  
 QEII 9d (blue) Type 5 Air Letter

Also known on Eire stamps

Note: Multiheaded die, **2x2**, originally "L&S/L<sup>d</sup>" (L5090.03M), used by Lepard & Smiths Ltd, Wholesale Stationers, 15-18 Great Earl St, and 43 & 44 Castle St, Long Acre, London WC2.

Ident: C J T Carr, Dover, Kent.  
 Later moved to Broadstairs, Kent (2005), and then to Holton-le-Clay, Lincs (2014). {Private Perfin}.

Pmks: Dover, and Canterbury, Kent.



Space doesn't permit a comprehensive gallery, but the above three span the 'Dover' years.

**Summary Table of 'Personal Perfins'.**

	Cat No.	Letters	User	Date Range
<b>1</b>	<b>G4165.01m</b>	<b>GR mono</b>	<b>George Richardson</b>	<b>1960-1969</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>S2630.01</b>	<b>SEP./S</b>	<b>Perfin Society</b>	<b>1964-1983</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>C0020.01</b>	<b>C/..</b>	<b>Chris Carr</b>	<b>1965-Date</b>
Awaiting further research.....				
4	H0012.16	H	David Higgs	1980-1995
5	P4145.01m	PS mono	Roy Gault	1983-Date
6	H3165.01m	H/H mono	Frank Hewerdine (Ltd)	c1990
7	K1470.02	KP	Kevin Parkhill (ob 1998)	1990-1998
8	Des0295.01	Cross	Rosemary Smith	1991-Date
9	W2345.01	W/N[ER]	Magnus Werner (ob 2009)	1991-1992
10	L0007.12	L	Tony Llewellyn-Edwards	1995-2003
11	K0510.02	KD	Ken Dee - 1	1998-2000
12	D1543.01	DEE	Ken Dee - 2	1998-2011
13	Des1120.01	Square	Alastair Walter - 1	1999-Date
14	N1600.01	NH	Norman Hewerdine (ob 2010)	c2000
15	Des0500.02	Triangle	Alastair Walter - 2	2006-Date
16	D0024.01	D	Doug Myall	c2007
17	Des1130.01	Arrow	George Yalden	2008-Date
18	T0760.10	TC	Terry Comper	2012-Date
19	R0014.04	R	Ron Mills - 1	2018-Date
20	R3410.07	RM	Ron Mills - 2	2018-Date

**Notes for the future .....**

- The machine Kevin Parkhill used for his “KP” (K1470.02) was a Local Government Voting Paper canceller, as was Rosemary Smith’s.
- Norman Hewerdine’s “NH” machine was made for him by his son in law - current whereabouts of the device is unknown.